

Economics Department Curriculum Change

The Economics Department is updating the empirical training in its curriculum. This change will better prepare students both for existing career paths and for emerging fields like data science. The key change is that Applied Econometrics will now be a required course. Applied Econometrics (previously Econ 488, now Econ 398) gives hands-on training to analyze cause and effect relationships in data. This has tremendous value for a variety of data-oriented careers and paths after graduation. Econ 378 and 388 will also be modified to include more practice evaluating real-world data. This addition of one required class will be offset by reducing the number of electives from five classes to four, thereby keeping the total length of the major constant at 37 credit hours.

Any student who declares Economics as their major beginning fall 2021 will be under the new requirements:

- Complete seven required core courses: Econ 110, 378, 380, 381, 382, 388, 398 (previously 488)
- Complete four elective 400- or 500-level Econ courses

Existing Economics majors may graduate under the previous major requirements. For these students, however, Econ 398 can count as one of your five 400-level electives, and we encourage all majors to take it.